

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 23 March 2009 has been entered. In this amendment, claims 4 and 5 have been amended, claims 1, 2, and 6-9 have been canceled, and claims 17-20 have been added.
2. Claims 4, 5, and 17-20 are presented for examination.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to the objection of claims 1, 2, 5, and 8-9 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objection of 23 December 2008 has been withdrawn.
4. Applicant's arguments with respect to rejection of claims 5, 17, and 19 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of 23 December 2008 has been withdrawn.

Information Disclosure Statement

5. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 29 April 2009 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Examiner's Amendment

6. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jonathan Berschadsky on 3 June 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 5, after line 36, insert:

"performing all of the above steps using at least one processor."

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 4, 5, and 17-20 are allowed.
8. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 5 and 19 disclose of "receiving the encrypted encoded image data and corresponding header data, the header data including a first field storing information and indicating whether the encoded image data has an error detecting code for

detecting an error in the encoded image data, wherein the first field is referenced by a decoding process, and a second field storing information indicating whether the encoded image data has the error detecting code for detecting the error in the encoded image data, wherein the second field is not referenced by the decoding process." It is also disclosed of "modifying the first field to store information indicating that the encrypted encoded image data includes the error detecting code, if the information stored in the second field indicates that the encrypted encoded image data includes the error detecting code and the key information is available." These features, in combination with the other limitations in the claims, are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over, the prior art of record.

Claim 17 discloses of "an input unit that receives the encrypted encoded image data and corresponding header data, the header data including a first field storing information indicating whether the encoded image data has an error detecting code for detecting an error in the encoded image data, wherein the first field is referenced by a decoding process, and a second field storing information indicating whether the encoded image data has the error detecting code for detecting the error in the encoded image data, wherein the second field is not referenced by the decoding process." Claim 17 also discloses of "a modification unit that modifies the first field to store information indicating that the encrypted encoded image data includes the error detecting code, if the information stored in the second field indicates that the encrypted encoded image data includes the error detecting code and the key information is available." These

features, in combination with the other limitations in the claims, are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over, the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- a. Fellerer (US 2004/0202323 A1) discloses a system and method for encoding and decoding communication data.
- b. Go et al. (US 2007/0074091 A1) discloses a system and method for generating a checksum.
- c. Levine et al. (US Patent 5,778,191) discloses a system and method for error control of a macroblock-based video compression technique.
- d. Miller et al. (US Patent 7,451,381 B2) discloses a system and method for reliably and efficiently transporting dynamic data across a network.
- e. Rey et al. (US Patent 7,036,069 B2) discloses a system and method for distinguishing between congestion and corruption losses during the transmission of data packets.

f. Tanaka et al. (US 2003/0043749 A1) discloses a system and method for reproducing header information and payloads securely.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sarah Su whose telephone number is (571) 270-3835. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:30AM-5:00PM EST..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Korzuch can be reached on (571) 272-7589. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/William R. Korzuch/
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/Sarah Su/
Examiner, Art Unit 2431